

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water

December 15, 2017

Jeff Weinstein, Superintendent
South Kern Union School District
P.O. Drawer CC
Rosamond, CA 93560

State Water Resources Control Board's Notice Regarding Mandatory Consolidation

Dear Mr. Weinstein,

Effective June 24, 2015, Section 116680 through 116684 was added to the California Health & Safety Code, addressing consolidation of public water systems.

Our records indicate that the water delivered by Rosamond School's public water system (Water System) contains arsenic at levels that exceed the maximum contaminant level established in state and federal regulations. Since approximately 2008, the Water System has consistently failed to provide safe drinking water due to the high arsenic levels. To document the arsenic MCL violations, the Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) issued Compliance Order Nos. 03-19-09O-022 on January 23, 2009, and 03-19-17R-002 on March 24, 2017.

Rosamond Community Services District (RCSD) is in the process of completing a planning project for the Rosamond Regional SWRCB Arsenic Compliance Project to assist several small water systems meet safe drinking water standards. Connections would be made with master water meters to the School's water system. Rosamond School Water System serves a population of approximately 940 through two service connections. It is our understanding the Water System is within the RCSD's service area.

The State Board strongly encourages Rosamond School and RCSD to work out voluntary consolidation of their public water systems. If a voluntary consolidation is not timely achieved, the State Board intends to take action pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682, subdivision (a) for consolidation of the Rosamond School Water System into RCSD's water system. Please note that as used in the applicable statutory authority, the RCSD is hereby identified as the potentially receiving water system and the Rosamond School Water System is identified as the potentially subsumed water system.

This letter serves as official notification that, pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682, subdivision (b), Rosamond School, the potentially subsumed water system, is directed to negotiate consolidation with RCSD, the potentially receiving water system. The Water System is further

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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directed to complete such negotiations and report the outcome to the State Board, Division of Drinking Water, Tehachapi District Office, not later than six (6) months following the date of this letter.

The State Water Board acknowledges that consolidation is a complex process and stands ready to assist you so that you are successful in delivering safe, affordable and accessible drinking water to your community in a cost-effective manner. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section 116682 subdivision (b) (6) (A), during the six month negotiation period, the State Water Board will provide technical assistance and work with Rosamond School and RCSD to develop an appropriate financing package, if needed. Technical assistance will be available from the State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water and Division of Financial Assistance.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Jaswinder (Jesse) Dhaliwal, Tehachapi District Engineer for the State Water Board, at (661) 335-7315, or me at (559) 447-3132. For funding related questions, please contact the Division of Financial Assistance at (916) 341-5700.

Sincerely,



Carl L. Carlucci, P.E.
Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Central California Section
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

cc:

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